



U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Together, we are ending homelessness.

Interagency Leadership and Collaboration

The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) leads national efforts to prevent and end homelessness in America. We drive action among its 19 federal member agencies and fosters the efficient use of resources in support of best practices at every level of government and with the private sector.

Our Council is made up of heads of our member agencies and meets quarterly to advance federal collaboration and support state and local activities. USICH leads interagency working groups to design and implement federal strategies and provides expert guidance to our member agencies and to state and local leaders to empower communities to end homelessness once and for all.

Statutory Authority and Congressional Committees

USICH was originally authorized by Title II of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (PL 100-77) to serve as an independent establishment within the executive branch. USICH was most recently reauthorized by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 supported USICH's FY 17 budget request of \$3.6 million and extended our sunset date to October 1, 2018.

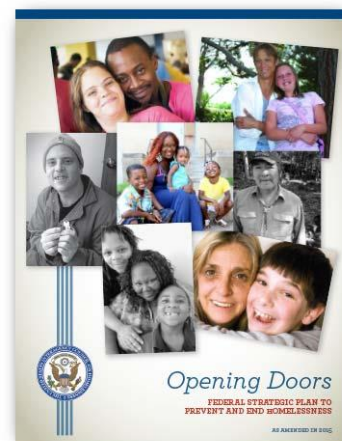
- *Senate Authorizing Committee:* Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development
- *House Authorizing Committee:* Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance
- *Senate Appropriations Subcommittee:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
- *House Appropriations Subcommittee:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Driving National Progress Toward Ending Homelessness

USICH leads the interagency implementation of the current federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, *Opening Doors*.

The vision of the federal plan is simple: no one in America should be without a safe and stable home in a strong, nurturing community where they can pursue and achieve their personal goals. Our efforts have driven significant progress since 2010:

- 14% reduction in the total number of people experiencing homelessness, including an almost 25% reduction in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness — sleeping on sidewalks, in parks, in cars, or other outdoor locations



- 47% reduction in the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness, including a 56% reduction in unsheltered homelessness among Veterans
- 23% reduction in the number of families with children experiencing homelessness, including a 65% drop in unsheltered homelessness among family households
- 27% reduction in the number of people with disabilities experiencing chronic homelessness, long-term or repeated episodes of homelessness, including a 16% reduction in unsheltered chronic homelessness

USICH has led efforts to confirm that [more than 40 communities](#), and the entire states of Virginia, Connecticut, and Delaware, have effectively ended homelessness among Veterans.

Supporting the Capacity of States and Local Communities

Our team of experts supports state and local partners to tackle difficult challenges with the most effective strategies. We also develop tools and guidance to support all communities to implement the best practices and to ensure that all Americans—regardless of where they live—have access to a full range of opportunities. Some of our most significant recent publications and documents, featured at usich.gov, include:

- [Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of: Ending Veteran Homelessness; Ending Family Homelessness; Ending Youth Homelessness; Ending Chronic Homelessness](#)
- [10 Strategies to End Veteran Homelessness and 10 Strategies to End Chronic Homelessness](#)
- [Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response](#)
- [Family Connection: Building Systems to End Family Homelessness](#)
- [Using Homelessness and Housing Needs Data to Tailor and Drive Local Solutions](#)
- [Partnerships for Opening Doors: Integrating Employment and Housing Strategies Final Report](#)
- [Housing First Checklist: Assessing Projects and Systems for a Housing First Orientation](#)
- [Partnering with Hospitals to End Homelessness](#)
- [Strategies to Address the Intersection of the Opioid Crisis and Homelessness](#)
- [Ending Homelessness for People Living in Encampments: Advancing the Dialogue and Case Studies](#)
- [Using Shelter Strategically to End Homelessness](#)
- [Enlisting Mainstream Resources and Programs to End Homelessness](#)
- [Public Housing Agency \(PHA\) Guidebook to Ending Homelessness](#)
- [Engaging Landlords: Private Landlords Partnering to End Homelessness](#)
- [Key Strategies for Connecting People Experiencing Homelessness to SSI/SSDI](#)
- [Reducing Criminal Justice System Involvement among People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Guide to Reviewing Domestic Violence Transitional Housing Projects within the Continuum of Care Competition](#)
- [Case Studies: Building School/Housing Partnerships for Families Experiencing Homelessness](#)

